

I recommend that provision be made for custodial schools to care for imbecile and idiotic children who are not at present entitled to admission in any of our existing institutions. It is estimated that there are six hundred whites and probably three hundred negroes in such classes.

I recommend that provision be made for a suitable fireproof building to take proper care of all the departments of the government and their valuable records and other properties, excepting the Governor's office and Secretary of State's office, which should remain in the capitol. The Supreme Court, the Attorney-General, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Treasurer, the Auditor, the Commissioner of Insurance, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Labor and Printing, the Historical Commission, the State Board of Charities, the State Librarian, and others should have their offices and quarters in such proposed new building.

I recognize, of course, that these needed permanent public improvements can not be erected out of the expected current revenues. I also know that our people are inherently opposed both to taxes and bonds—the one tastes of British tyranny, the other of reconstruction. We are all against indebtedness if it can be properly avoided, without the just interests of the State suffering, and no one of us favors bonds unless convinced of their necessity in the cause of the people. It can not be disputed that for permanent improvements indebtedness is not only sometimes justifiable but frequently wise and desirable. Current revenues of men and communities are often inadequate to pay current expenses and also make necessary permanent improvements which will remain to bless in the succeeding years. Therefore the young man often builds his home, the congregation often erects a church, the town a graded school building, the county a court-house, the denomination a college building, by borrowing. Good roads are constructed, factories enlarged, orphan asylums are built by borrowing. If there is certainty of paying with undoubted ability, if the cause is worthy, if the necessity is urgent, if there be no extravagance or graft, if the public interests demand it, then the State should not shrink from borrowing, and a brave, intelligent, progressive, patriotic people will approve it.